Docket No.: SCHARMÜLLER-3

Appl. No.: 10/595,651

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE,
AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS

1.-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A high-load drawbar eye, comprising:

a hitch flange for attachment to a towed vehicle;

a hitch socket constructed to receive a matching hitch ball and having an open rim <u>and defining a center axis</u>, said hitch socket <u>being substantially</u>

hemispherical in shape and defining a greatest diameter; having

a <u>substantially semicircular collar formed along the open rim and having a diameter smaller than a greatest diameter of the hitch socket and further including two end sections, each end section having a recess formed therein;</u>

a hitch arm <u>defining a longitudinal axis and connecting</u> the hitch socket to the hitch flange; and

a hold-down device <u>movably attached to the hitch arm for movement along</u>
the <u>longitudinal axis</u> cooperating with the hitch socket and including a
semicircular fork <u>engaging with the hitch socket</u>, said <u>semicircular fork having</u>
two end sections, each end section having a projection formed thereon, with
each projection interlocking with a corresponding opposing recess in the
semicircular collar when the hitch ball is in engagement with the hitch socket of
a configuration to match a shape of the collar.

15. (Currently amended) The drawbar eye of claim 14, wherein the hitch-secket defines a center axis, and the hitch arm defines a longitudinal axis, said center axis and [[said]] the longitudinal axis extend extending at an angle ranging between approximately 50° and approximately 80° relative to one another.

 (Previously presented) The drawbar eye of claim 15, wherein the angle ranges between 60° and 70°. Docket No.: SCHARMÜLLER-3

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17. (Previously presented) The drawbar eye of claim 14, wherein, as viewed in

operating position, the hold-down device is movably supported on a bottom side

of the hitch arm

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) The drawbar eye of claim 14, further comprising an

actuating apparatus for operating the hold-down device.

20. (Previously presented) The drawbar eye of claim 19, wherein the actuating

apparatus includes a toggle joint.

21. (Previously presented) The drawbar eye of claim 19, wherein the actuating

apparatus includes an eccentric lever.

22. (Previously presented) The drawbar eye of claim 19, wherein the actuating

apparatus includes a manual lever.

23. (Currently amended) The drawbar eye of claim 19, wherein the actuating

apparatus includes a pneumatic and/or hydraulic pneumatically or hydraulically

operated cylinder.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) The drawbar eye of claim 14, wherein the hitch ball has

a diameter and includes a portion which is constructed for reception by the hitch socket and the hold-down device, said portion being greater in size than a

hemisphere sized to correspond to the diameter of the hitch ball, thereby

realizing a substantially flat support area of the portion of the hitch ball by the

hitch socket and the hold-down device.

26. (Canceled)

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